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LINCOLN

KUGOWN
Salama Prisoners

1. It is urgently desired to revive the case of the Salama prisoners in Guatemala and to create public sentiment in their favor and against the Guatemalan government.

2. Latest information indicates that 93 prisoners from the Salama uprising are still held in jail. They are being held under filthy, crowded conditions. They are virtually on starvation rations, their clothes are in rags, medical attention to them is negligible. What is more, the typical Communist methods of psychological torture are being applied against these prisoners. For example, several weeks' ago all the prisoners were led out into a prison courtyard and told that they were going to be executed. They were all blindfolded and stood up against the wall. Rifles were fired with blank cartridges and the prisoners, after this brutal harassment, were led back to their cells.

3. One of the prisoners, a young student, Mario SANDOVAL Alarcon, is faced with blindness unless he receives prompt medical attention. His eyes were bandaged so brutally tight during the blindfolding referred to above that his sight is gravely endangered.

4. [ ] are urged to check their files for previous exploitation of the case of the Salama prisoners and to up-date new published material with the above facts. KUGOWN exploitation should be slanted in two directions:

a. Condemnation of the brutal police methods and the irregularity of justice in Guatemala;

b. Extolling the Salama prisoners as heroes of and martyrs to the cause of freedom.

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JCD/JTN/eaf
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